



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2013

Contact: Lorenza Munoz, 213-458-6279

Email: lmunoz@bos.lacounty.gov

Contact: Sharita Moon, 213-309-4136

Email: smoon@bos.lacounty.gov

SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE FOR L.A. YOUTH

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas, Cynthia Banks director of the county's Community and Senior Services and Dr. Gerald T. Kozai, chief executive of St. Francis Medical Center will gather with dozens of youth to announce a \$5 million county investment in summer youth jobs Thursday, June 11 at St. Francis Medical Center, 3630 East Imperial Highway, Lynwood, CA 90262 at 11 a.m.

This year's "Earn and Learn" Summer Youth Employment Program will be open to more than 3,100 young people, ages 14-21. With an additional \$2 million investment from the L.A. City Council and support from private companies, the program will have a \$7 million commitment to place youth in jobs for the summer in a variety of industries making it the largest program of its kind in the nation.

The program also includes "personal growth" and financial literacy training that is necessary to succeed in today's competitive economy. A special emphasis will be placed on finding jobs for foster youth, many of whom struggle to find a path after they graduate.

Experience and skills gained from internships is an increasingly important asset to land a job. Because so many internships are unpaid, many young people without economic means are at a disadvantage. The Earn and Learn Summer Youth Employment Program are at no cost to the employers.

"This is a win-win for all involved," said Chairman Ridley-Thomas. "Employers are looking for potential employees that have initiative and specific skill sets. These internships will teach young people invaluable skills and give them the experience to impress future employers. This is a very worthwhile investment for our community."

####